

## Attachment 3

# SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY HEALTH AGENCY

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## *Public Health Department*

*2180 Johnson Avenue  
San Luis Obispo, California 93401  
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*Jeff Hamm  
Health Agency Director*

*Penny Borenstein, M.D., M.P.H.  
Health Officer*

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director  
Penny Borenstein, M.D., Health Officer

DATE: January 13, 2015

SUBJECT: Relief of Accountability 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Fiscal Year 2013-14

### Recommendation

The Health Agency requests "Relief from Accountability" for Public Health Laboratory accounts that have been determined to be non-collectable. The service dates for these accounts represents the last six months of the calendar year 2013. These accounts have been deemed non-collectable, due to non-response from the insurance company for over 12 months. Every effort has been made to collect on these accounts by the Public Health staff. This action will remove non-collectable balances totaling \$3,548.

### Discussion

This request will allow the Department to remove non-collectable account balances for 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurance claims over one year old. A client's account is determined to be non-collectable, when every effort has been made to collect from their insurance company, there is no response from the insurance company, and the account is beyond the timely filing limit.

### Other Agency Involvement/Impact

Public Health has coordinated their efforts with the County Administrative Office and the County Auditor's Office, and they both concur with this request.

### Financial Considerations

This action will reduce the Laboratory's Accounts Receivable by \$3,548. The removal of these accounts will have no impact on current budget appropriations.

### Results

Removal of these non-collectable records from the Laboratory's active Accounts Receivable will increase efficiency for accounting processes by eliminating from the system those postings that have been deemed non-collectable.



## ***DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES***

*3433 South Higuera Street, Post Office Box 8119  
San Luis Obispo, California 93403-8119*

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**TO: Board of Supervisors**

**FROM: Leland W. Collins, Social Services Director**

**DATE: March 3, 2015**

**SUBJECT: Request for Relief from Accountability**

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that your Board approve a Request for Relief from Accountability in the amount of \$16,014.52 for the current quarter.

### **Discussion**

State Fiscal Manual Section 25-480 and Government Code Section 25257 require the Department of Social Services to obtain Board approval for discharge of accountability for debts owed as the result of the overpayment of public assistance benefits. Since Welfare and Institutions code 10850 requires that the names of individuals be held confidential, the Department is providing a summary by program of these debts.

Rules and regulations governing aid payments are complex, change frequently and mandate that certain overpayments cannot be billed. The State Manual of Policies and Procedures for Eligibility and Assistance Standards (MPP EAS) Regulation 44-350.161[b] and 44-352.3 state that no further collection efforts shall be made if the county determines that the cost to collect the overpayment exceeds the amount to be recovered, if the debtor dies, if the debtor is unable to locate or if the debtor undergoes Bankruptcy.

The current Relief of Accountability covers the October through December 2014 quarter case cleanup. The Department has pursued all available means of collection including (if applicable) monthly billing, repayment agreements, benefit reductions and tax intercept. After a lengthy timeframe of collection attempts, these amounts were determined as appropriate to be written off.

### **Other Agency Involvement**

None.

### **Financial Considerations**

This request for relief is for a combination of CALWORKS, Food Stamps and General Assistance debts. The total amount from which the Department is requesting relief is \$16,014.52 for 22 total debts.

Of these 22 debts we have identified:

CALWORKS – 7 debts totaling \$4,449.73 with a County share of cost of \$133.49.

Food Stamps – 13 debts totaling \$8,439.29. There is no County share of cost for Food Stamps.

General Assistance – 2 debts totaling \$3,125.50. General Assistance is 100% County funded.

### **Results**

By relieving the Department of the requested \$16,014.52, collection staff will be released from the task of reviewing and maintaining records of debts that are no longer collectable for the aforementioned reasons.